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MISCELLANY



TO THE HIGH CHIEFS, OFFICERS, SOLDIERS, TO ALL

The heroes, known and unknown, both dead and living, who have triumphed over the barbarians' onslaught and immortalized her name throughout the world and for ages to come, the Town of Verdun, inviolate and standing on her ruins, dedicates this medal, in token of her gratitude.

Paris, 20th November, 1916 *The Deputy-Mayor*

By a resolution of the Town Council of Verdun assembled at Paris, on November 20, 1916

THE VERDUN MEDAL

L'EFFORT de la France et ses Alliés is the organization at the Hotel Vanderbilt headed by M. Stéphane Lausanne which has copies of the medal cast in remembrance of the defence of Verdun already noted in our last month's issue. The obverse and reverse of this medal are reproduced here. Vernier is a maker of medals and bas-reliefs who has a notable name in France. In this medal he symbolizes the old town of Verdun, famous in many wars of the past, now almost empty of inhabitants and greatly ruined by German shells, under the guise of a young girl; this to represent its ever-youthful spirit. She clinches her fist and with helmet on head and sword in hand utters a cry heard to-day in France which is going down in history: *On ne*

passe pas! Instead of a harsh-visaged Bellona it has seemed well to Vernier to make his spirit of Verdun a sweet-faced maid by way of contrast. The handling is also delicate and fluid instead of rough and barbaric; no severe lines, no abrupt divisions! Nor has he cared to menace or taunt the foe; a quiet resolve, an immovable defence are what he utters in this little art product of the war.

And on the reverse, with an allusion to the historic continuities, he simply places the old gateway to the citadel that has managed to escape the rain of projectiles with which the town was inundated so long. The medal may be had from M. Lausanne at the Hotel Vanderbilt in two metals, the silver for five dollars, the bronze for one.

PERSIAN PICTURES AT THE GROLIER CLUB

The Grolier Club of New York, always noteworthy for the beautiful books it has issued from time to time and the choice exhibitions held in its old house in East Thirty-second street, has built itself a larger home in East Sixtieth with a lecture and exhibition hall on the ground-floor and a charming little library full of rare books on the upper floor. In its new quarters the exhibitions will be open to the public without fee for entrance. The house-warming in January was accompanied by a show of Persian illustrations and specimens of calligraphy that served as examples for a talk by

an expert in Oriental bibliography about Persian illuminations and the various kinds of writing employed by famous Persian calligraphers of the past. The beauty of their paper and book covers, the extraordinary artistic quality of their manuscripts can only be realized when a great number of books are brought together in such an assemblage as this, which has drawn upon the collections of half a dozen noted amateurs. The Grolier continues to form the meeting-point for those who love the book, as a work of art as well as for its contents.